

SAINT CATHERINE OF SIENA

abused and insulted the individual members of the Sacred College and announced that he would swamp them by the creation of ne^e Italians and Romans. He stormed at them in public, calling on a fool, another a liar, bidding a third hold his tongue. He sprang from his seat to attack the Cardinal of Limoges, and there would have been a disgraceful brawl, if the Cardinal of Geneva had not intervened. On Low Sunday, April 25, the Cardinal of Amien arrived in Rome, furious with his colleagues for electing an Italian, openly expressing his doubts as to the validity of the election. A violent scene took place in the papal palace. Urban declared that the Cardinal had destroyed the peace of the world by his treacherous diplomacy; the Cardinal retorted that, if his accuser were still the Archbishop of Bari, he would tell him that he lied in his throat. Such was Urban's bearing that even his salutary measures for reform, bidding cardinals repair and reside at their titular churches, bishops return to their sees, and the like, seemed to acquire the character of studied insults. None were the laity left untouched. Great nobles from Apulia and barons from the Campagna found themselves rebuked and their petitions denied them. Fra Gonsalvo, who had been absent from the city on business of his order during the conclave, tells us that at Gaeta he met Neapolitans returning from Rome, who were greatly scandalized at the conduct of the new pontiff, who drove people away from him with ignominy, "nobles and magnates and venerable clerics and religious." There was much discussion among the friars on the subject, but the prevalent opinion was that it made for righteousness and marked the beginning of holy time, that men of bad life should be disturbed by the word of the Pope, for these persons "would not dare to go into the presence of Christ, the searcher of hearts."¹ Andrea di Pier Gambacorti, who had gone to congratulate him in his father's name, brought back a similar account of his proceedings to Pisa "According to what he says," wrote the Prior of Gorgona to

¹ MS. «/», ff. 58 v., 59. To the poor, however, Urban was gracious, granting them all the favours and graces they asked. Cf. Cristoforo da Piacenza in his despatch of June 24, Pastor, *Geschichte*, I. doc. 12.